

No. 10 March 9, 1981

BEIJING REVIEW

北京周報

A CHINESE WEEKLY
OF
NEWS AND VIEWS

- Building Socialist Spiritual Civilization
- TV in China
- Soviet-American Contention in El Salvador



HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Socialist Spiritual Civilization

Along with the overriding aim of realizing the four modernizations, the goal of building socialist spiritual civilization should also be on the agenda. This was urged by a Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. His views are elucidated in his letter to a Party leader (p. 16).

A campaign to learn from Lei Feng, a selfless P.L.A. fighter, is being unfolded to foster communist ideals, devotion to the public interest and comradely relationship, all of which are among the major contents of the socialist spiritual civilization (p. 6).

Sino-Dutch Relations

China recalls its ambassador to the Netherlands and downgrades Sino-Dutch diplomatic relations to the charge d'affaires level (p. 8).

TV in China

With an ever-growing audience in the cities and villages, television is becoming a part of the Chinese people's daily life, serving as a medium of education and entertainment (pp. 21-28).

El Salvador Situation

The Soviet strategy to bring Soviet-American global contention to the "backyard" of the United States has aggravated the situation in El Salvador (p. 10).

China opposes intervention by outside forces in the internal affairs of all countries (p. 8).

Behind Moscow's "Appeal"

One of the reasons for Moscow's "appeal" for a regional conference between ASEAN and Indochinese countries is to extricate itself and its surrogate from the mire in

Kampuchea. But there's more to it than that (p. 11).

Booming Arms Traffic

The biggest exporters of armaments — a major means to promote their global interests — are the Soviet Union and the United States. Increasing arms trade has brought serious consequences to the present-day turbulent world (p. 14).

Book on China's Economy

A collection of theses by the noted economist Xue Muqiao on the readjustment and restructuring of China's national economy (p. 30).



Sun Jingxiu, a well-known educator, telling stories to children.

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China's Strategic Position

China is poor and backward. Does it follow that China's position in global strategy is negligible?

World politicians and activists, who underestimate China's position in the global strategy of opposing hegemonism and safeguarding peace, will not be able to make a correct appraisal of the world situation, nor can they have a correct strategy.

There is no denying the fact that China is a weak and poor country and its military equipment is rather backward. But we have a clear estimation of ourselves. Ours is a big country with its own strength, views and tradition. And this is a tradition of the weak overcoming the strong, of the ill-equipped defeating the better-equipped and of waging a protracted war against invaders.

It is known to the whole world that, to emancipate themselves, the Chinese people have defeated a strong and superior force with a weak and backward force. They dare to look reality in the face even in extremely difficult circumstances. It is by relying on their own strength that they founded the People's Republic of China.

Facts over the past three decades since the founding of the People's Republic have proved that the Chinese people do not fear the use of force, threats or encirclement by imperialism and hegemonism. They have safeguarded their own independence and sovereignty and made contributions to the defence of world peace, thereby winning the sympathy

and respect of peace-loving countries and peoples the world over. People of insight are fully aware of China's role and influence in the world, and the Soviet Union has its own misgivings about China.

Using "detente" and "defence" as the signboard and in the name of "supporting rev-

olution," Moscow is today engaged in aggression and expansion in all parts of the world. Confronted with such a situation, anti-hegemonist forces should unite and support one another to combat this very real threat. It is wrong and inadvisable to think that China's position in the global strategy is negligible.

— Political Editor An Zhiguo

China and El Salvador

Has China sent weapons to the guerrillas of El Salvador?

China has not provided any weapons to the guerrillas of El Salvador. In the early 1960s, China gave Cuba some small arms for self-defence. Cuba, which has ulterior motives, has sent them to the guerrillas of El Salvador.

The right of the people of El Salvador to safeguard their independence and strive for social progress should be respected. In this regard, they have the

sympathy and support of peace-loving peoples all over the world. China opposes interference in the internal affairs of El Salvador from any source.

Under the guise of "supporting" the national-liberation movement, the Soviet Union is interfering through Cuba in the political affairs of El Salvador and contending with the United States for hegemony, thus making the situation in that country more complicated than ever.

— International Editor Guo Ji

Readjustment and Foreign Trade

Will the current economic readjustment affect the right of local foreign trade departments to make their own decisions?

Reform of the foreign trade system, i.e., giving the local authorities certain rights to self-management, is one aspect of the structural reform of China's economy. This practice, which has proved to be correct after a period of trial, has enhanced the initiative of the local authorities and livened up foreign trade.

But owing to lack of experience, certain shortcomings have cropped up, which call for

improved management. This does not mean, however, that the reform will be cancelled or that the past practice of rigid control by the central government will be restored.

To improve management means, among other things, government intervention in certain important matters. Methods which have proved effective in other countries may also be adopted, such as the organization of associations (unofficial) of the same trade to co-ordinate their activities to prevent confusion in their dealings with foreign firms.

— Economic Editor Jin Qi

LETTERS

Conservatism and Friedmanism

The short piece by Xiao Xi in the final issue of 1980 (No. 52), entitled "Conservatism and Friedmanism," is a once-over-lightly, a brief description of stagflation and the inadequacies of the two dominant economic "philosophies" in the West in coping with this "phenomenon."

Mr. Xiao's final paragraph says merely that "although everything points to the failure of Keynesianism, the anti-Keynesianist conservatives are not likely (to be) able to give capitalism unflinching prosperity either."

Is this some new revelation? As we say in the U.S., "So what else is new?" Surely the great majority of *Beijing Review* readers concur with this conclusion; what they need to know more about is what stagflation really is, why monetarist policies pursued by Mrs. Thatcher or Mr. Reagan which presume to return their respective countries to the hallowed principles of 19th century free enterprise must fail.

In other words readers throughout the world, and especially workers who themselves are the victims of stagflation, can benefit only from a more searching Marxist analysis of its real causes and conditions.

Norval Welch
New York, N.Y., U.S.A.

Help More Readers Understand

I feel that the comparably wide range of your magazine is good. But it is also important to consider the non-Communists and non-Marxists who are friends of China and the Chinese people. These friends are more than perhaps you have imagined. Explaining your policies only through Marxist dialectics will prevent the appeal of your ideas from reaching many people in various fields. I am teaching in a political school, and my students cannot understand many of the articles in your magazine because they are written in such a strange and difficult language.

Helmut Deckert
Wutoshingen, W. Germany

Technical Education

Although you published some excellent articles last year on youth education, I never saw any concrete description of the complete spectrum of polytechnical education in China. Is the presentation of technical subjects in your schools as dull and insipid as it is here? More specifically, are merely individual technical subjects taught or are there also comprehensive technical programmes? Is it possible to receive a comprehensive technical education in China? How are technical fields presented in your textbooks?

I think that polytechnical education cannot be limited to textbooks. I have heard that popular science magazines in China are now carrying stories about barbers using solar energy and peasants devising simple methods for the use of marsh gas. I suggest that you publish concrete articles on such topics.

Horst Kern
Le-Echterdingen, W. Germany

European Arms Talks

I am writing to congratulate Li Yunhua on his interesting and informative article concerning "European Arms Talks" (issue No. 46, 1980). The United Kingdom is now looked upon as part of Europe; therefore, as I studied the article, I felt as if I was reading something of great importance to me. For some time I have wanted to know the figures concerning soldiers in Europe. After a few minutes I had learnt many interesting facts about the continent so close to my country. For example, I had no idea that the "Warsaw Pact" has a troop strength in Central Europe of 1.3 million.

David Dixey
Essex, United Kingdom

Varied Opinions

"Notes From the Editors" is, I feel, a very valuable addition to the magazine, mainly because of the increased flexibility it gives you in your treatment of events. I would like it to be much more extensive, and comment not merely on domestic, but also international, cultural and every other issue, in a topical and straightforward way. One way to achieve this would, I think, be to use for "Notes From the Editors" the same

size of type as is used in the "Letters" column.

"Humour in China" adds something to the magazine which will make it far more acceptable to Western readers, who are used to magazines that aim at entertaining. It might be better to have one or two large, elaborate cartoons that really display the cartoonist's skill. Also I think cartoons should be topical and relate to serious issues, though not necessarily political ones.

A.N. May
Huyton, United Kingdom

"Humour in China" is good. You ought to have it in every single issue, not just once a month. Cartoons can convey in an instant what words need a long article to say.

"Notes From the Editors" also seems good, as long as it supplements, but does not replace, the translation in full of important editorial articles and communiqués.

I think you do not need to publish the "Letters" column. These letters seem to be intended for your own editorial board, not for the readers. It is quite meaningless for us to read that some fellow here and another there thinks that such and such an article is very good.

Ole Bjorn Rongen
Stavanger, Norway

I'm interested in some of your major articles, but I like the "Letters" column best. There I can read the opinions not only of other Japanese readers, but also of the people of other countries. I hope more improvements will be made in this column.

Yoshiyasu Harada
Chiba, Japan



POLITICAL

17th Meeting of Standing Committee of Fifth N.P.C.

The Standing Committee of the 5th National People's Congress, the highest organ of state power in China, held its 17th meeting in Beijing's Great Hall of the People on February 25.

Yao Yilin, Vice-Premier and Minister in Charge of the State Planning Commission, gave a report on the readjustment of the 1981 national economic plan and the state revenue and expenditure.

In his report, he first recalled the implementation of the 1980 state economic plan and pointed out that the country's economic situation is good, in fact, it has rarely been better since the founding of New China in 1949. But, he added, there are latent dangers. This mainly refers to successive big financial deficits. Hence the need for further readjustment.

Yao Yilin put forward some important measures for the readjustment of the national economic plan for the current year. One example is to reduce the original total investment of 55,000 million yuan in capital construction to 30,000 million yuan. His report also called for efforts to raise the economic results and to ensure a steady increase in the national economy. (A detailed report will be published later.)

Other items on the agenda of the 17th meeting included a report by Cheng Zihua, Minister of Civil Affairs, on direct elections at the county level, and a report by Jiang Hua, President of the Supreme People's Court

and President of the Special Court, on the trial of the principal culprits of the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing counter-revolutionary cliques.

The various groups then discussed and examined Yao Yilin's report.

Zhao Ziyang Presides Over Discussion Meetings. On February 27 and 28, Zhao Ziyang, Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the C.P.C. Central Committee and Premier of the State Council, invited leading members of the various democratic parties and the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce as well as personages without party affiliation and from religious circles to discussion meetings. Opinions were solicited concerning the readjustment of the national economic plan and the work of the government.

The participants noted that the principle of readjustment is positive and practical. While voicing their approval, they put forward many suggestions which, Premier Zhao said, are very helpful. Noting that the biggest drawbacks in China's economy are big waste and low returns, he said that in developing the economy in the future, efforts should be made to achieve big economic returns from small investments.

ECONOMIC

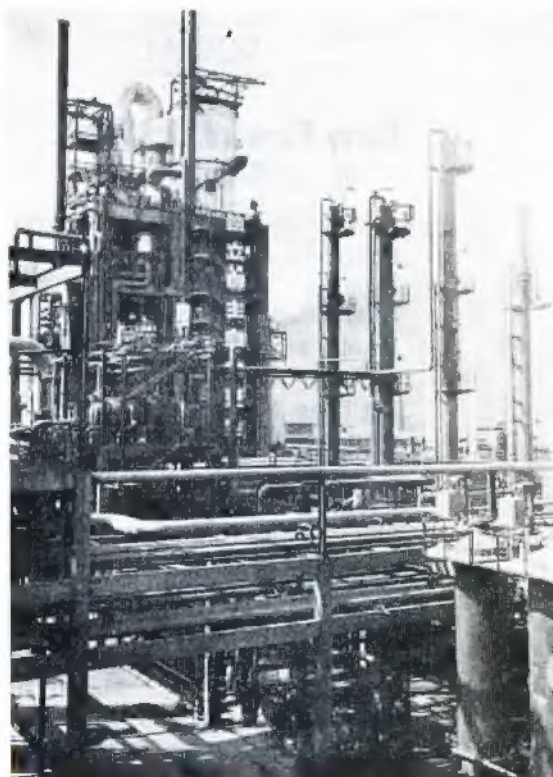
Newly Built Industrial Projects

China completed and put into operation 60 big and medium-sized integrated projects and 183 single items in 1980. These

have added to the capacity of such weak links in the economy as energy sources, communications and transport, building materials and light and textile industries.

The completion of these new projects has, among other things, increased the capacity of electricity generation by 2.48 million kilowatts, cement by 1.5 million tons and sugar by 86,000 tons.

A number of new coal mines were built in northeast China's Liaoning and Heilongjiang Provinces, north China's Shanxi Province, central China's Henan Province and northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. Their combined annual capacity is 7.29 million tons.



A large device for producing alkene, designed, manufactured and installed by Chinese technicians and workers, goes into operation in northwest China's Lanzhou.

New oil wells were sunk in northeast China's Daqing, east China's Shengli and four other oilfields.

Nine hundred and ten kilometres of new railways were built and opened to traffic last year. New ports built can handle 6,825,000 tons of goods a year.

China's light and textile industries also expanded with the completion of a number of new projects, including vinylon, chemical fibre and woollen mills.

A spokesman of the State Capital Construction Commission said that despite the reduction of the scale of capital construction in the current readjustment of the economy, key projects planned for 1981 will be completed on time and good economic results will be ensured.

SOCIAL

Carry Forward the Spirit Of Lei Feng

On February 19, the General Political Department of the People's Liberation Army issued a circular calling on the whole army to further unfold the movement to learn from Lei Feng, a young P.L.A. soldier who died while on duty in 1962.

Lei Feng was a man of noble moral character and was imbued with communist ideals. He was dedicated to serving the public without any thought of himself. During his off hours, he often spent his time helping others. On March 5, 1963, Chairman Mao wrote an inscription calling on the people throughout the country to learn from Lei Feng, which later became a nationwide movement, particularly among the young people.

Renmin Ribao recently published a report on how the P.L.A. unit in which Lei Feng served has carried forward the spirit of this selfless P.L.A. fighter. In fact the officers and men of this unit started emulating Lei Feng as early as 1960. Over the past 20 years, they have worked selflessly for the public interest and done many good things for the people. For instance, they have built houses, highways and school buildings for the minority peoples in the remote border areas and sunk wells for the fishermen living by the seaside. And they have rescued children who fell into the rivers, intercepted startled horses, donated blood for patients who were seriously ill, and done many other good turns for the people.

On March 1, hundreds of thousands of youngsters and tens of thousands of officers and men of the People's Liberation Army in Beijing carried out activities emulating Lei Feng and doing good things for the public. They swept the streets, cleaned up public recreation centres, helped the people's police in maintaining traffic order, publicized politeness

and took part in farm work or in building parks in the city.

It was the first day of "Learning From Lei Feng Week" sponsored by the office in charge of education of children and youth under the Beijing municipal Party committee and the Beijing municipal committee of the Communist Youth League. Responsible members of the Beijing municipal Party committee, the municipal people's government and the P.L.A. units stationed in Beijing also took part in these activities.

The movement to learn from Lei Feng is not only carried out in the army units and among the youngsters. In fact people all over the country are learning from him.

Peng Yixiang, 61, is a barber in the port city of Tianjin in north China. Before liberation he served as an apprentice and lived in misery. Liberation brought him happiness but he has never forgotten his sufferings in the old society. Since the restoration of the bonus system in 1978, he has deposited his monthly bonus in the bank



Members of the "Learning From Lei Feng Group" of a school in Zhengzhou, Henan Province, take turns to help their crippled schoolmate who has not dropped a class over the past five years.

and used the money to help people in difficulty or to buy hair-clippers, hair scissors and other instruments for his barbershop. In addition he spent 300 yuan to buy two electric fans and a few umbrellas for the convenience of the customers.

Hu Asu, a retired woman worker in Shanghai, lived frugally. When she died, she gave her entire savings totalling more than 10,000 yuan to the state. She said in her will: "I endured untold sufferings in the old society. The new society and Chairman Mao have given me happiness. What I have now has all been given me by the state. I wish to donate all my savings to the state after I die." She is praised by the people as a fine example of the working class.

Average Life Expectancy Doubled

Average life expectancy in China is now nearly double that of pre-liberation days. Investigations show that it is 66.95 years for men and 69.55 years for women. Before liberation the average life expectancy was around 35.

Statistics recently provided by the Ministry of Public Health on the basis of a 1978 survey show that mortality rate has dropped from 25 per thousand before 1949 to less than 7 per thousand which is among the lowest in the world.

Before 1949, infant mortality was 120 per thousand in the Chinese cities and 200 per thousand in the countryside. This dropped to 12 per thousand in the cities and 20-30 per thousand in the rural areas.

Of the number of people who die each year, the proportion of those aged 50 and above increased from 36.3 per cent in 1957 to 74.1 per cent in 1975 in the cities and from 35.8 per cent in 1957 to 67.1 per cent in 1975 in the rural areas.

Figures and analyses of the causes of death in some regions show that deaths caused by diseases of the respiratory system, TB, diseases of the digestive system and acute infectious diseases have dropped markedly, while heart and cerebral diseases and cancer have become the major causes of death.

Relief Work for Disaster Areas

Jingzhou Prefecture in central China's Hubei Province suffered a serious flood and Hengshui Prefecture in north China's Hebei Province was hit by a prolonged drought last year.

A multi-agency fact-finding mission from the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) ended a 20-day inspection tour of the disaster areas on January 31. The mission covered more than 1,200 kilometres in these areas and inquired in detail about the people's efforts to repair dykes and other flood control projects in the flood-affected areas and to sink deep wells for irrigation in the drought-stricken areas.

In Ganchang Commune in Hubei Province's Gonggan County, 160 students (one junior middle school class and five primary school classes) were having classes in a shed

in spite of the severe cold. A teacher told the mission that though the conditions were harsh, the children were unwilling to drop their classes.

A press release issued by UNDRO in Geneva on the fact-finding mission's tour of China stated: "The mission found that the sustained relief efforts deployed by the central government and local authorities have met the basic minimal needs of the population in the seriously affected areas despite significant agricultural losses."

The release also noted: "On the basis of the findings of the mission and its assessment of the needs, UNDRO in consultation with the Chinese Government will undertake mobilization of resources in the international community."

FOREIGN RELATIONS

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Visits China

Venezuelan Foreign Minister Dr. Jose Alberto Zambrano, Mrs. Zambrano and their party paid a formal visit to China from February 25 to 27. During their visit, Chinese leaders Deng Xiaoping and Zhao Ziyang met with the Venezuelan guests on separate occasions.

Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Huang Hua held talks with Foreign Minister Zambrano and exchanged views on current international issues, particularly on the situation in Latin America and Asia. They shared

similar views on many questions. The two sides expressed the hope that continued efforts will be made to consolidate and strengthen the friendly relations and co-operation between the two countries in the political, economic, trade, scientific and technological fields.

President of Venezuela Luis Herrera Campins will visit China later this year. The Chinese Government and people are looking forward to his visit. It is useful for leaders of friendly countries to have more contacts and frequent exchanges of views so as to cope with the current grim international situation.

Speaking at the banquet he gave for the Venezuelan guests, Huang Hua noted that aggression and expansion by the hegemonists have added tension to the present turbulent world. In Asia, Soviet troops have invaded and occupied Afghanistan and the Soviets support Viet Nam in its armed aggression against Kampuchea. In the Western Hemisphere, the Soviet Union and Cuba are carrying out infiltration, subversion and intervention in Central America and the Caribbean region. As these expansionist activities are strategic motives, Huang Hua said, they "not only seriously menace the peace and security of the regions in which our two countries are located, but also pose a great danger to world peace." He stressed that the current international situation demands that the third world countries strengthen their unity and co-operation.

Huang Hua paid tribute to Venezuela for the active part it has played in promoting unity and co-operation among Latin American countries, advancing the development of the integra-

tion of Latin America, safeguarding peace, security and stability in Central America and the Caribbean region. In international affairs, Venezuela upholds justice, condemns the power politics of the superpowers, opposes the hegemonists' aggression and expansion and safeguards the economic rights of the developing countries. It has made untiring efforts as well as contributions to the establishment of a just and equal new international economic order.

Foreign Minister Zambrano, in his speech, stressed that both Venezuela and China are third world countries and are genuine non-aligned countries because their external policies are not commanded by the superpowers. He said the problems the world is facing now require closer ties between Venezuela and China. He added: "It is correct to say that China cannot possibly achieve stability without modernization. At the same time, world peace and security would be unthinkable without China's stability and prosperity."

Situation in El Salvador. When the Venezuelan guests were in Beijing, Huang Hua spoke about the situation in El Salvador. He said: "We always hold that the internal affairs of all countries should be handled by their own people, and we firmly oppose any form of infiltration, subversion and intervention by outside forces." He added: "It is the inalienable right of the people of El Salvador and other countries in Central America and the Caribbean region to safeguard their independence and sovereignty, develop their national economy and win social progress, a right that should be respected and is worthy of sympathy and support." He

pointed out that meddling and intervention by the hegemonists in these countries' internal affairs in the name of "support" has complicated the situation in El Salvador and this region as a whole and made it still more turbulent. "This," Huang Hua said, "cannot but cause concern in the international community."

China Recalls Ambassador To the Netherlands

In view of the fact that the Dutch Government clung to its erroneous stand of permitting the sale of submarines to Taiwan, thereby undermining the basis on which diplomatic relations between China and the Netherlands were established at the ambassadorial level, the Chinese Government has decided to recall immediately its ambassador to the Netherlands and to ask the Dutch Government to recall its ambassador to China.

The decision was made known in the Chinese Foreign Ministry's note to the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Beijing on February 27. The Chinese Government reiterated in this note its demand that Sino-Dutch diplomatic relations be downgraded to the level of charge d'affaires and proposed that negotiations on the matter be held as soon as possible. This move is aimed at protecting China's state sovereignty and national dignity as well as the basic norms of international relations.

The note said: "The Chinese side has pointed out time and again that the sale of submarines to Taiwan has gone beyond the limits of the common run of people-to-people trade. It is incompatible with the generally

accepted norms guiding international relations for one country to supply the local authorities of another country it formally recognizes with arms to be used against the central government of that country. The Dutch Government's decision to approve the said sale is undoubtedly a grave act of interfering in China's internal affairs and infringing on its sovereignty in violation of the principles set forth in the 1972 communique on upgrading the diplomatic relations between China and the Netherlands. It will never be accepted by the Chinese Government and people.

"In view of the strong demand of people from all walks of life in the Netherlands for the withdrawal of the above-mentioned decision of the Dutch Government, the Chinese Government, out of its desire of safeguarding the friendly Sino-Dutch relations, has waited with great patience for the Dutch Government's reconsideration of its own decision. The Chinese Government indicated that if the Dutch Government set store by the long-term interests of the Chinese and Dutch peoples and changed its erroneous decision by taking effective measures to cancel the sale of submarines to Taiwan, then it would be possible to maintain and develop still further the Sino-Dutch friendly relations and co-operation established through efforts over the years. To our great disappointment, however, the Dutch Government, in disregard of the desire of both the Chinese and Dutch peoples, announced on February 20 that it would not withdraw its decision.

Renmin Ribao, in an article by its commentator on February 28, pointed out that the decision made by the Chinese Government is necessary and correct. It said that the Dutch Government, to justify its erroneous act, argued that it must "stand by its word" to grant export licenses for the deal and maintain its "credibility." By so doing, the article continued, the Dutch Government has backed out of its commitments, made when Sino-Dutch relations were upgraded to the ambassadorial level in 1972, that it recognizes Taiwan as a province of China and will not interfere in the internal affairs of China, thereby undermining its credibility.

What the Dutch Government has done is also in violation of the interests and wishes of the Dutch people. Over the past two months many political parties, people of all circles and newspapers and magazines in the Netherlands have pointed out that the Dutch Government's approval of the submarine sale has done harm to the interests of the two countries the cause of opposing hegemonism and the preservation of world peace. They have also pointed out that the friendly relations between the Netherlands and China should not be undermined for the sake of immediate interests. On February 3, the second chamber of the Dutch Parliament, in accordance with the wishes of the people, adopted the motion asking the government to rescind its decision of approving the sale of submarines to Taiwan. We believe, the article concluded, that the friend-

ly relations between the two countries, based on the principles of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, will finally be restored through joint efforts by the two peoples.

105 Contracts With Foreign Companies

The China Construction Engineering Corporation has signed 105 contracts with foreign companies since it started contract business two years ago. Most of the contracts are for designing and building construction projects, including apartment buildings, hotels, restaurants, hospitals and a broadcasting and TV office building. For example, the corporation has undertaken the building of a satellite ground receiving station in the Yemen Arab Republic through public bidding as a sub-contractor together with a British company, and this project is due to be completed in September this year.

Last year the corporation signed agreements for four joint ventures, including the China-Yemen Construction Engineering Corporation in Sanaa and the China-Thailand Engineering Co. Ltd. in Bangkok.

At present the China Construction Engineering Corporation is negotiating with companies in France, Britain, the Federal Republic of Germany and Senegal for the construction of civil airports, highway bridges and Chinese-type courtyards.

*El Salvador***Soviet-American Contention**

WITH government troops and guerrillas locked in bitter fighting, rivalry in El Salvador between the Soviet Union and the United States has intensified, marking a major escalation in superpower contention in Central America.

Moscow Moves In

The Soviet Union, which pushes an aggressive policy of expansion everywhere in the world, has been infiltrating Latin America. This has been facilitated by the unstable political situation prevailing in various Central American countries, where numerous political factions contend with one another and anti-government activities are widespread.

The Soviet Union is relying mainly on Cuba to effect its entry into the Caribbean region. Soviet infiltration and expansion following Cuban penetration behind a banner of supporting the national-liberation movement is more deceptive and less likely to arouse immediate opposition. At present, Soviet efforts are concentrated on El Salvador, trying to establish a foothold inside the anti-government camp fighting to overthrow the pro-U.S. regime. As one big Brazilian daily points out, the Soviet strategy is to bring the Soviet-American global

conflict closer home to the United States by setting up a system of satellite states in Central America, inside the strategic "backyard" of the United States. Soviet intervention in El Salvador, of course, upsets the equanimity of the United States. U.S. intelligence learnt long ago about Soviet dispatches of weapons to El Salvador through Cuba and certain other Central American countries and has now made these findings known. The Soviet Union, however, flatly denies this. It counter-charges that the United States is backing a military junta in El Salvador. The United States is afraid that political developments in El Salvador, with Soviet help, could take a turn which would hurt U.S. interests and, moreover, trigger off a chain reaction in other Central American countries.

Washington's Reply

A few weeks ago, U.S. newspapers and government spokes-

men began telling the world about the Soviet Union, Cuba, Viet Nam and some other countries channelling arms to the anti-government guerrillas in El Salvador. The disclosures were accompanied by a world-wide propaganda campaign listing acts of Soviet interference in El Salvador. To win West European support, special envoys left Washington for friendly capitals with documented evidence of Soviet and certain other countries' interference in El Salvador. U.S. Secretary of State Haig in an official statement announced an emergency plan designed to stem the flow of Soviet and Cuban weapons into that country, while U.S. presidential adviser Mese declared that the United States may even take direct action, such as blockading Cuba, if it continues arms deliveries to the guerrillas.

The United States simultaneously announced that it was resuming military aid to El Salvador as a part of the new U.S. foreign policy. Reports say U.S. military aid would go up from the present \$10 million to \$25-30 million and more U.S. military and technical personnel would be sent. The U.S. declared it would go on supporting El Salvador's economic and political reforms while continuing to condemn "Right-inspired violence" and the "terrorist activities" of the Left. In addition, more economic aid, worth nearly \$100 million, is promised to shore up the tattered Salvadoran economy.

A Global Issue

The U.S.-Soviet quarrel in El Salvador breaking out into the open is taking on global dimensions. French Foreign Minister



Poncet, on his visit to the United States, discussed the El Salvador issue with Haig and expressed French objections to outside interference in the internal affairs of this Central American nation. The British Prime Minister Mrs. Thatcher made it even clearer before she arrived in the United States. Britain, she declared, supports the U.S. policy towards El Salvador. U.S. efforts to counter Soviet interference in El Salvador apparently are believed to be yielding some results. And when Soviet chief Brezhnev at the 26th Party congress announced another "peace offen-

sive," the Reagan administration answered that the Soviet Union must first show its sincerity by stopping its interference in Salvadoran affairs. This reply has put the Soviet Union further in a spot.

The situation in El Salvador remains tense. The two guerrilla "general offensives" have been checked, said government sources, but fighting is still raging, with neither side appearing to have the upper hand. Civil war in El Salvador is sure to be accompanied by more Soviet-American sparring.

— Ji Liqun

Behind Moscow's "Appeal"

THE Kremlin, in a recent message to ASEAN and other Asian countries, declared its support for Viet Nam's proposal for a regional conference between the two blocs of countries, that of Indochina and ASEAN. It appealed to them to accept Hanoi's proposal. But the response from Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore and the Philippines has been outright cold.

The proposal, masterminded by Moscow, was put out by Viet Nam at the end of January and was promptly turned down by all five ASEAN nations. Now, why has Moscow suddenly come out from behind the scenes to urge it on the ASEAN countries? It appears that the Soviet Union and Viet Nam want desperately to get themselves out of their fix in Kampuchea, but there is more to it than that.

Situation Changing

For a couple of years now the Kampuchean forces have successfully resisted the efforts of the Soviet-armed Vietnamese invaders to wipe them out. In fact, they have grown stronger,

in spite of the efforts of some 200,000 Vietnamese troops using Soviet weapons and tanks. Their opponents have found themselves being mired deeper in a long and arduous war. Moreover, the various political groups of Kampuchea are negotiating to unite their resistance to wage a more effective war against their common enemy, and they are being helped by the rising armed struggle of the Lao people against Vietnamese domination.

All this has deeply disturbed the Hanoi leaders and their Kremlin overlord. They have tried hard to spike the efforts for a united anti-Vietnamese front with a proposal for a regional conference with the participation of the Heng Samrin regime. If such a proposal is accepted, it would be tantamount to the ASEAN countries granting de facto recognition to that puppet regime and acquiescing in Viet Nam's occupation of Kampuchea by force of arms.

At present, there is a widespread demand for an interna-

tional conference in accordance with the U.N. resolutions to discuss the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Kampuchea, and the ASEAN countries are working to convene such a conference. But Moscow and Hanoi hope to jettison the relevant U.N. resolutions and evade the inevitable censure at an international conference by insistently calling for a regional conference.

Multiple Soviet Aims

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and its support for Viet Nam's occupation of Kampuchea are two major moves in its push-to-the-south strategy. That is why it is resorting to similar tactics in both cases. It stubbornly refuses to quit Afghanistan and supports Viet Nam's intensified war of aggression in Kampuchea. At the same time, it declares that both are "regional issues," not issues affecting world peace, and tries, by coaxing and pressure, to get the neighbouring countries to enter into individual dialogues or regional conferences with the puppet regimes in Kampuchea and Afghanistan.

These tactics, the Kremlin believes, can achieve the following ends:

—To invalidate the U.N. General Assembly resolutions and neutralize the widespread demand for Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and Vietnamese withdrawal from Kampuchea;

—To create an impression of being "conciliatory," in order to divide or soften the countries concerned;

—To inveigle the countries concerned to acquiesce in the Soviet and Vietnamese invasions;

—To clear the way for further thrusts into Southeast Asia and the Persian Gulf. In its message to ASEAN nations, the Kremlin declared that what happens in Southeast Asia also has a bearing on the interests of the Soviet Union. Brezhnev's recent proposal to discuss "questions connected with Afghanistan together with questions of Persian Gulf security" reveals the Kremlin's intent. It wants to push further south after consolidating its hold on Afghanistan and Indochina.

After sending Brezhnev's "appeal" out to Asian countries, Moscow made a big play about

"strengthening peace" and "enlarging detente." It accompanied this with proposals for talks on "confidence-building measures in the Far East," "a moratorium on the deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe" and a Soviet-American summit. But, so long as the Kremlin obdurately refuses to pull out from Afghanistan and its proxies do not evacuate Kampuchea, the world has every reason to distrust the Soviet Union's professions. The Soviet Union's new "peace offensive" is like all its earlier "peace offensives" and the world is right to be wary.

—Chen Si

of January this year, Japan consented to limit its export of automobiles at a level not higher than 10 per cent over that of 1980 to West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg. However, the Benelux countries and France were not satisfied. They asked Japan to stay below the 1980 total. France and Belgium already have taken steps to limit car imports from Japan.

On February 17, the foreign ministers council of the European Community in Brussels adopted a declaration urging Japan to further reduce its exports and calling for statistical monitoring of imports of vehicles, colour TV sets and machine tools from Japan. It also wanted the next Japan-Europe talk held earlier, and said their countries intend to raise the trade issue with Japan at the seven-nation conference in Ottawa next July.

At the fourth meeting between representatives of the Japanese Diet and the E.E.C. parliament held in Tokyo from February 16 to 18 this year, the E.E.C. representatives urged Japan to adopt self-restrictive measures immediately, and to announce specific guidelines limiting exports, to purchase more European products and to raise the low foreign exchange rate of the yen. Together, they warned that if specific restrictive measures were not taken within three months, there would be dire consequences.

The unhappy note heard in the meetings is an expression of the E.E.C.'s growing dissatisfaction with the Japanese export drive and the present state of trade relations is developing into a political issue.

Japan-West Europe

Strained Relations and Co-operation

STRAINS appeared in trade relations between Japan and the European Economic Community recently. But the Soviet strategic drive south, particularly the grave menace posed by its military expansion, have steadily drawn Japan and Western Europe closer politically and militarily.

Trade Rivalry

Last year, Japanese exports to Western Europe showed a substantial increase. According to E.E.C. figures for 1980, E.E.C. countries imported 714,000 cars, 700,000 colour TV sets and 3 million TV tubes from Japan while imports of machine tools rose by 60 per cent over that of 1979. The E.E.C. incurred a 10 billion U.S. dollar trade imbalance with Japan last year.

Apart from a grave balance of payments problem, the num-

ber of unemployed has soared. In October last year, unemployment in the E.E.C. countries stood at 7 million. International balance of payments deficits have fuelled inflation and the growing number of unemployed threatens social stability.

The reason behind this huge influx of goods from Japan is primarily because of the competitiveness of the products. Their price and quality, which are very attractive to West European buyers, are attained by lower production costs and higher productivity.

A series of official and non-governmental talks have been held between Japan and West European countries since last autumn to smooth relations, but no progress has been made as yet. At working-level negotiations held in Tokyo at the end

Political Consultations And Military Relations

Last December, when Japanese Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito toured Western Europe, visiting France, Britain, West Germany and Belgium, he discussed with his foreign counterparts the Afghan issue, the situation in Southeast Asia and the Middle East as well as Poland. Common ground was found on many issues concerning security and political co-operation. About possible sanctions against a Soviet invasion of Poland, Ito told Foreign Minister Genscher of West Germany that Japan would enter into consultations with the West European countries immediately after an intervention and would adopt sanctions matching those of the NATO countries as closely as possible. Earlier, the Defence Minister of West Germany had visited Tokyo to exchange views on an overall plan for co-operation in the sphere of security and detente. In France, the Japanese Foreign Minister and the French Head of State, expressing grave concern over the expansionist policy of the Soviet Union, stressed that they wish to see the "establishment of a genuine political dialogue in the future between Japan and France."

Co-operation in the military field between Japan and Britain has also made progress. Last autumn, a British squadron of eight warships held joint training exercises with the Japanese Naval Self-Defence Forces in the Sea of Izuoshima. After the exercise the British Navy Chief of Staff Henry Leach pointed out that the Soviet Union can now build a nuclear submarine in eight weeks and has the fastest and deepest-diving nuclear submarine in the world. Britain and

Japan, he said, can co-operate and help each other in the field of defence.

At the meeting of the Comprehensive National Security Council of Japan convened not long ago, unanimous agreement was reached concerning the situation in the Middle East and the strengthening of the co-ordinating system between Japan and Western countries. Top officials of the Japanese Foreign Ministry expressed clear support for the proposal to establish a "committee on comprehensive security guarantee" involving Japan, Western Europe and the United States. On the question of guaranteeing safety of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz,

the Japanese Defence Agency said that the strait is a major artery for Japan and Western Europe and although Japan could not take part in a "combined fleet" with the Western countries, it was willing to pay some of the costs towards the setting up of the "combined fleet." On January 22, Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki pointed out at the meeting of the secretaries-general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party that in order to preserve world peace and stability, Japan and the West European countries, with the United States as the pivot, must improve their co-operation and efforts.

—Ren Yen

Internal Strife in Zimbabwe

ARMED clashes within Zimbabwe's new national army between rival factions of former guerrilla forces took place recently in the country's central and southwestern regions near the city of Bulawayo. At the end of the week-long wave of conflict, some 300 soldiers and civilians were killed and many others were wounded

National Liberation Army (ZANLA), and those of the Zimbabwe People's Revolutionary Army (ZIPRA). The conflict then spread to the camps of two other battalions, and guerrillas of the two factions assembled for reorganization on the outskirts of Bulawayo, the country's second largest city, were also involved in the fighting.

Army leaders hurried to inspect the camps as soon as the fighting began and troops were dispatched to enforce a ceasefire between the warring factions. To prevent the incident from expanding, Zimbabwe's joint military high command sent the air force to destroy three armoured personnel carriers and two cars heading for Bulawayo to reinforce ZIPRA soldiers there.

On February 15, more than one thousand ZANLA troops surrendered their weapons and



The fighting first erupted on February 9 in a camp of one of the battalions of the newly reorganized national army between former guerrilla soldiers of the Zimbabwe African

moved out from their camps at Entumbane, where the fiercest fighting took place. The 1,500 ZIPRA guerrillas also stationed there initially refused to obey the orders of both the joint high command and their own commander to disarm and move to new camps. Through repeated negotiation, however, they finally agreed to relinquish their weapons and withdraw from the area. Resolute military action taken by the government in other regions of conflict also played a positive role in bringing an end to the fighting and stabilizing the situation throughout the country.

Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has declared that those who incited the conflict must be severely punished in order to maintain discipline within the national army and firm loyalty to the state. Four disciplinary commissions composed of senior officers of the two guerrilla armies have been formed to investigate the incident, and disciplinary action will be taken against the most serious offenders and ring-leaders. The disarmed forces will be reorganized separately, and the work of integrating the two factional guerrilla forces into a unified army will continue.

This was the second large armed clash between ZANLA and ZIPRA forces since independence in April 1980. Last November, at another assembling point near Bulawayo, over 40 people were killed and more than 400 wounded in fighting between the two factions.

In the struggle for Zimbabwe's independence, ZANLA and ZIPRA troops were organized by the two major black

nationalist parties—the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU), led by Robert Mugabe, and the Patriotic Front (ZAPU) with Joshua Nkomo as president. Based separately in Mozambique and Zambia, the two guerrilla armies carried out a long and bitter struggle for national independence and liberation from the racist policies of the ruling white regime. After independence was won, the Zimbabwe African National Union was voted into power in general elections last year in February; Robert Mugabe then became Prime Minister of the new coalition government, and Joshua Nkomo became Minister of Home Affairs. Not long ago, Mugabe reshuffled his cabinet and removed Nkomo to Minister Without Portfolio. This shakeup reportedly touched off dissatisfaction among many Nkomo

supporters in the army, and may have been one cause of the recent outburst of fighting.

Tribal contradictions are still very strong in Zimbabwe and this may have been another factor in the latest conflict. Members of Mugabe's ZANU are mainly from the Shona tribe, one of Zimbabwe's two largest, while most members of the Nkomo-led Zimbabwe African People's Union are part of the other large Ndebele tribe. Elements of tribal and traditional conflicts were seen in the recent violence, and in checking the conflict government authorities carefully refrained from blaming or alienating either side. The Mugabe government is thus persisting in its pursuit of national reconciliation and unity.

— Jiang Xianming

Booming Arms Traffic

The biggest exporters of armaments are the Soviet Union and the United States. Their arms exports make up two-thirds of the world total.

SINCE the mid-1970s, the capitalist world has been in the grip of spiralling inflation and the world market has been shrinking. Only the armament trade has flourished. According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, the annual rate of increase in total world armament exports in the early 1970s was 15 per cent, rising to upwards of 25 per cent after 1974. The United Nations had

proclaimed the 1970s as "disarmament decade," but the trade in arms grew rapidly in those years to gravely menace world peace.

There are various reasons behind this huge increase both in value and volume. Apart from inflation, weapons nowadays become obsolete faster and have to be replaced. They have a shorter life. But the fundamental reason is the big powers

veying to sell weapons and ammunition.

Main Exporters

Military aid and weapons sales have always been major means used by the big powers to promote their global interests and foreign policies. The biggest exporters of weapons today are the Soviet Union and the United States. Their arms exports make up more than two-thirds of the world armament trade.

The export of weapons by Moscow, which began in the mid-50s, has risen sharply with its efforts to push out into other parts of the world and to win global hegemony. Estimates place Soviet arms exports to the third world countries in 1976 at 3,400 million U.S. dollars, rising to 8,400 million dollars in 1979, a 2.47-fold increase in four years. Most of the places Moscow sends weapons to are places it wants to win over or control. The huge quantities of sophisticated weapons with which Moscow arms the Warsaw Treaty Organization members are designed to maintain its strategic hold over Europe, to allow it, when the opportunity appears, to seize the "new crescent" which embraces countries in Western Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and Southern Asia. According to NATO estimates, between 1973 and 1979, the Soviet Union and the Warsaw Treaty Organization exported some 20,700 million dollars worth of weapons to third world countries, of which 72.6 per cent went to countries in the Middle East and North Africa.

Soviet weapons have also gone to Viet Nam and Cuba. It is reliably reported that in the last few years, Moscow

sent Viet Nam 2,100 million dollars worth of arms and ammunition.

The United States has for years been the undisputed No. 1 merchant in this line, although it is being seriously challenged by the other superpower today. In 1977, the U.S. Government announced curbs restricting the export of arms and even set up a bureau to oversee arms exports. But when it saw the formidable challenge from the Soviet Union, followed by West European countries, it quickly resumed exports again and has been steadily pushing sales up.

Estimates place U.S. arms exports in 1978 at 9,600 million dollars, about 48 per cent of the world munitions trade.

More Exporters of Arms

Besides the two superpowers, at least 20 more countries are now making and selling weapons, because it is a lucrative trade, bringing huge profits and generating more job opportunities. More and more countries and monopolies are now engaged in this trade.

France comes third on the list of arms exporters. The annual average rate of increase in the last few years of its armament industry is 6 per cent and the value of its arms export has doubled in the last ten years. In 1979, France had foreign orders for 6,100 million dollars worth of arms. After President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to the Middle East last year, France concluded huge arms deals with Iraq and Saudi Arabia. British munition exports have doubled since 1976, reaching 2,800 million dollars in 1980.

Italy, West Germany and even some neutral countries such as Sweden, Austria and

Switzerland are doing a brisk business in arms. Israel, which has been importing enormous quantities of weapons to correspond with its expansionist policy, is also feverishly hawking weapons to earn foreign exchange.

Third World — Chief Market

Military spending in the world has been rising rapidly. In 1980 it was about 500,000 million dollars, equivalent to 6 per cent the gross world product.

For self-defence purposes or because of regional confrontations, military spending by third world countries has been rising quickly. Military spending by these countries makes up about 15 per cent the world total. As many third world countries cannot manufacture weapons themselves, they have to import. The biggest buyers are the oil-producing countries in the Middle East with a lot of petrodollars.

The booming trade in arms has brought serious consequences to third world countries. In the first place, their money is not being spent to develop their economies. In the second place, buying armaments fuels an arms race between antagonistic neighbours, which further destabilizes the region and further exacerbates relations. And lastly, it affords the big powers chances to intervene and control them, endangering their independence and sovereignty.

It is those countries seeking strategic and economic advantages which are vigorously peddling arms and are behind the recent rapid expansion of the armament trade.

— Dan Lin

Building Socialist Spiritual Civilization

Li Chang, Vice-President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, in a letter to a leading member of the Party Central Committee last December, proposed that the goal of "building socialist spiritual civilization" should be put forward. It received due attention. The text of the letter follows. — Ed.

THE Third Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee signified that our country has entered a new era of socialist construction. The central task for the whole Party and the people of all nationalities throughout the country is to bring about the four modernizations. Over the past two years, the ideal of working hard for the realization of the four modernizations has struck root in the hearts of the people.

In the revised draft of the Constitution of the Communist Party of China, the Party's general task at the present stage was formulated as: "Unite the people of all nationalities, work with one heart and one mind, achieve greater, faster, better and more economical results in developing socialist economy in a planned and proportionate way and build a modern and powerful socialist country with highly developed democracy and civilization." This is a more comprehensive formulation; following its adoption at the forthcoming 12th National Congress of the Party, it will surely play a still more significant role as the basis for uniting the actions of the whole Party and the people of all nationalities at the present stage.

Since the Fifth Plenary Session of the 11th Party Central Committee, inspired by the idea of "improving and strengthening the Party leadership," I have felt all along that, after the ten disastrous years of the "cultural revolution," there still exists within the Party the pernicious influence of the ultra-Left line of the gang of four, remnants of the factional ideology of feudalism, selfish individualism of the bourgeoisie, anarchism of the petty-bourgeoisie and colonial ideas which worship things foreign. Under these influences, ideological demands inside and outside the Party have grown somewhat slack. Therefore it is

necessary for the Party Central Committee to put forward a clear-cut and effective general slogan to guide the actions of the whole Party and the people all over the country, comparable to "Down with Japanese imperialism!" in the War of Resistance Against Japan and "Down with Chiang Kai-shek, liberate the whole country!" in the War of Liberation. It would serve to strengthen ideological and political work, and mobilize all the people of the country to accomplish the arduous task which history has entrusted to us.

In fact, we now have a general goal, that is, to "bring about the four modernizations." Among our people, there is no one who does not support it. But I feel that, along with the general goal of realizing the four modernizations, we should also consider putting forward a goal of "building socialist spiritual civilization." The phrase itself first appeared in Vice-Chairman Ye's 1979 speech at the meeting in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

I consider that the socialist spiritual civilization includes a concrete aspect (such as well-developed education and thriving science, literature and art) as well as an ideological aspect (such as social ethics, traditions and customs). For example, by ideals we mean



Tang Xiaowei, a nuclear physicist trained in New China, giving a lecture. He and many other scientists who have lofty ideals and high aspirations are making their contributions to the building of a socialist spiritual civilization.

dedication to the people's cause and building the socialist motherland, whereas moral concepts imply identification of individual interests with the interests of the people and, when the two fall into contradiction, subordination of personal interests to the overall interests of the people. Moral concepts also refer to democracy and unity, hard work and plain living, eagerness to acquire an education, attaching importance to the development of science, paying attention to personal and public hygiene and being polite and courteous.

The first aspect (concrete) may be carried forward by people working in those fields while the latter (ideological aspect) would involve the efforts of all the Chinese people. While we are working to achieve the four modernizations, we must also strive to build socialist spiritual civilization, that is, mobilizing all workers, peasants, commercial and trade people, students, soldiers, men, women, old and young, for this task, so that the broad masses may concentrate on a clear-cut, revolutionary, patriotic objective. This in turn will propel the advance of the country's modernization programme.

To put forward the goal of building socialist spiritual civilization will give the slogan "Be both red and expert" a new content. Now people know clearly what "expert" means. If we say someone is "expert," we mean that he has worked hard in his field of study and reached a certain professional level. If we say someone is "red," could we understand it in this way now: he has worked hard for the building of socialist spiritual civilization and he himself has met the requirements of the civilization?

At the same time, to put forward the goal of building socialist spiritual civilization will raise clear-cut and strict demands on members of the Communist Party and Communist Youth League. In addition to doing a good job at their own posts and doing their bit for the four modernizations, Party members must play an exemplary role, and League members a vanguard role, in uniting comrades they are working with to strive for the building of the socialist spiritual civilization.

I believe that, if the Party Central Committee can emphatically put forward the goal



A group of young people help nurse Yu Xianglin (fourth from right), a retired worker, back to health.

of "bringing about the four modernizations and building socialist spiritual civilization," it will enable people to form a clear view of the future, to advance with one heart and one mind, to be hard-working and live plainly, to increase production and practise economy at the present stage when the country is carrying out a big readjustment of the economy. It was wrong for Lin Biao and the gang of four to emphasize the primacy of the spiritual role. However, we should not overlook the fact that spirit can play a definite role.

During the War of Resistance Against Japan, we were poor and faced many difficulties, yet when people, Chinese or foreign, came to Yanan and other anti-Japanese democratic base areas, they felt that they had come to a new world which was full of revolutionary spirit. They believed that the hope of the whole Chinese nation could be seen there, and that these places were a stronghold for the world's anti-fascist war at that time. In the early post-liberation days, we were poorer than we are now and there were also difficulties. But as soon as foreigners arrived in Shenzhen and Guangzhou, they felt they had arrived in a plain-living, clean country with a revolutionary spirit and excellent social ethics. Some people even said that there was no need to lock their doors at night and that no one pocketed lost articles picked up in the street.

Now, our Party can and should rid itself of the damage by Lin Biao and the gang of four and the pernicious influence of the "Left" deviationist line, purify its thinking, enhance its revolutionary vigour, find the road to the four modernizations suited to China's conditions and stride ahead. □

On Spiritual Civilization

by Zhou Jinwei

A Passage From "Red Star Over China"

AFTER Edgar Snow, a noted American correspondent, travelled to Yanan, the city where the headquarters of the Chinese Communist Party was located, he wrote *Red Star Over China* describing his experiences there. In this book he provided an interesting account of the lives of workers in the town of Wu Chi Chen, the "industrial centre" of the Northwest Revolutionary Base Area (later known as the Shaanxi-Gansu-Ningxia Border Area): "How primitively they were being realized was quite another matter. They had clubs, schools, ample dormitories—all these, certainly—but in cave houses with earthen floors, no shower baths, no movies, no electricity. They were furnished food; but meals consisted of millet, vegetables, and sometimes mutton, with no delicacies whatever. They collected their wages and social insurance all right in Soviet currency, but the articles they could buy were strictly limited to necessities—and none too much of those.

"For these workers in Wu Chi Chen, however primitive it might be, here seemed to be a life at least of good health, exercise, clean

mountain air, freedom, dignity, and hope, in which there was room for growth. They felt they were working for themselves and for China and they said they were revolutionaries!"

Snow went on to say that the people there would compare their lives then with the times when they had lived worse than beasts of burden under the capitalist's leather whip. It seemed to him that they were quite satisfied with their spiritual life in Yanan. They took part in literary studies and dramatic groups, and held lively sports competitions. They appreciated and helped each other. A big door had opened in their lives. Then Snow said that even if they lacked the materials of socialist industry, they still had the spirit of socialist industry.

How great a gap it was between the difficult material conditions on the one hand and the rich spiritual life on the other! But the two were so harmoniously integrated for the Yanan people and the soldiers. By relying on this "Yanan spirit" the Chinese people, under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, finally succeeded in founding socialist New China. Today we are carrying out the four modernizations. As part of our efforts to realize this goal, it is important for us to study and inherit the revolutionary spirit of the Yanan times, understand the relationship between material and spiritual civilization and attach importance to the building of a socialist spiritual civilization.

Material and Spiritual Civilization

According to the Marxist materialist concept of history, people, first of all, must have food, shelter and clothing, and then they can engage in such activities as politics, science, art, and religion. Social life, political life and spiritual life are restricted by society's mode of material production. Once a thinking or spirit emerges, it will actively react on the material productive process. This fundamental Marxist approach is a guide to understanding the relationship between material and spiritual civilization.

Clearly, the material life is fundamental and of prime importance to man's existence.



Two girls who lost their parents are well cared for by Li Fengying.

But spiritual life is also indispensable. Those who enjoy a rich material life find life intolerable without a proper spiritual life. Why did the leading lady—Nora—in Ibsen's *A Doll's House* leave home? She lived quite well materially as her husband had recently been promoted to the position of bank manager and tried to gratify all her desires. But when she realized that she was nothing but a play-thing for her husband and that her spiritual life was devoid of meaning, she decided to leave, regardless of the consequences. Yanan presented a completely different picture. Though material conditions were harsh (the supply of basic daily needs was guaranteed), the spiritual life was quite rich, attracting large numbers of revolutionary young people from around the country.

Major Differences Between the Two Modernizations

Human society developed from an uncivilized to a civilized state. But people of different classes have different views on civilization. There is a fundamental difference between bourgeois civilization and proletarian civilization. We also acknowledge that the bourgeois material civilization is relatively high in the developed countries. But it has been achieved through the exploitation of workers; in short, it is created by the labouring people.

Generally speaking, bourgeois ideals, beliefs and ethics conform with the orientation of social development and are therefore progressive when the bourgeoisie and the other people wage a joint struggle against feudalism. Judged from an overall viewpoint and by the essence, in a capitalist society, especially during its decline, the nature of capital compels the capitalists to squeeze oppressively surplus value out of the workers and to fight ruthlessly with other capitalists of the same trade. Though capitalists may seem cultivated and well-mannered, they often selfishly try to cheat or outwit one another.

Developed capitalist countries experience ethical and spiritual crises and are plagued by social decadence, murders, robberies, drugs and suicides. Former U.S. President Carter once said that the material strength of the United States is "unparalleled," but that there exists an invisible "social sickness" and "spiritual crisis." It seems that contradictions between the material life and spiritual decadence particularly manifest themselves in capitalist modernization.

The fundamental difference between socialist modernization and capitalist modernization is that the former aims to unite the material and spiritual civilization. Comrade Deng Xiaoping once stated that while building a highly developed material civilization, we should raise the scientific and cultural level of the whole nation, develop a lofty, rich and varied cultural life as well as build a highly developed socialist spiritual civilization. He recently pointed out that the term socialist spiritual civilization not only refers to education, science and culture (these are necessary), but also to communist thought, ideals, beliefs, moral concepts, discipline, revolutionary stand and principles and a comradely relationship among people.

The Birth of Socialist Spiritual Civilization

Socialist spiritual civilization did not come out of thin air, but, similar to the construction of material civilization, was inherited from the spiritual achievements of mankind. Yet this heritage differs in some ways from material production. Whereas a part of the scientific and cultural knowledge, ethics and law have been inherited and assimilated from the useful aspects of the legacy of the bourgeoisie or other classes, the fundamental contents of communist thought, ideals, beliefs, moral concepts, discipline, revolutionary stand and principles, and comradely relationship were created by the proletariat through struggle and founded on the basis of consciously mastering the Marxist world outlook.

The proletariat is a material force created by large industry and represents the orientation of social development. Its fine qualities of selflessness and unity in waging a struggle are shaped by the capitalist relations of production; its lofty communist ideals and beliefs are put forward by its advanced intellectuals who have summarized the inexorable trend of capitalist society. The proletariat has waged sharp struggles against the bourgeoisie and further tempered and developed its fine style of work and excellent qualities in the course of self-liberation.

The spirit of wholeheartedly serving the people, selflessness, strictly observing discipline and self-sacrifice shown by the proletariat of our country under the leadership of its vanguard organization in the prolonged and arduous struggle against reactionaries both at home and abroad is a much treasured spiritual wealth. By

relying on this revolutionary spirit in difficult circumstances, we established the Jinggang Mountain Revolutionary Base Area, successfully completed the 25,000-li Long March, defeated Japanese imperialism and 8 million Kuomintang troops and finally liberated the country.

Since the founding of New China, we have established the socialist public ownership and further developed this revolutionary spirit. By relying on this spirit, we energetically tackled the awful mess left over from the Kuomintang government and worked for socialist construction. This spirit also enabled us to unite and successfully overcome the economic difficulties in the early 1960s. The spirit of Lei Feng*, that the whole nation was urged to learn from in the 1960s, was a concentrated expression of our socialist civilization. Now our material base is much stronger than in the early post-liberation days and in early 1960s and it is advantageous for us to make further efforts to build a socialist spiritual civilization.

Dynamic Role of Spiritual Civilization

We also acknowledge that material civilization is the foundation of spiritual civilization. A highly developed material civilization presupposes a highly developed spiritual civilization. The disappearance of uncivilized behaviour depends on the greatly enriched wealth and rich products of the society. But two things must be pointed out.

First, a material civilization will not naturally produce a spiritual civilization. As the fruit of mankind's labour, spiritual civilization is formed only through hard work. Such hard work consists of efforts in the arts, literature, education, theory, propaganda and public opinion as well as the maintenance of social ethics. The building of a socialist spiritual civilization has to depend on ideological and political work and the theoretical education of Marxism and Mao Zedong Thought in a systematic way, because the material production and the workers' movement will not spontaneously produce a socialist consciousness and ideological system.

* Lei Feng was an ordinary P.L.A. fighter who died while on duty in 1962. He became a model for the whole country because he was clear about what was right and wrong, practised what he advocated, and selflessly worked to help others in their daily work.

Second, as an ideology, socialist spiritual civilization has its relative independence and hastens the building of a material civilization. In the course of the four modernizations, if we foster the communist ideals and beliefs and study and analyse problems with correct methods and from a correct stand and point of view, then we can surmount every difficulty with full confidence under any circumstances. The development of a communist spirit of putting other people's interests ahead of one's own and selflessness can produce an excellent atmosphere for encouraging people to carry out their work energetically and happily. All this will play an important role in building a material civilization. Of course, a spiritual civilization cannot be accomplished overnight. Rather, it will be improved in conjunction with the development of material production and the enhancement of public ownership of the means of production. □

Just off the press

A GREAT TRIAL IN CHINESE HISTORY

(In English)

Authentic, comprehensive and up-to-date record of the trial of the two counter-revolutionary cliques of Lin Biao and Jiang Qing (November 1980-January 1981).

- Major crimes of the defendants and the disasters they brought to the country and people during the "cultural revolution";
- Highlights of court hearings and court debates;
- Documents: Indictment and Verdict.
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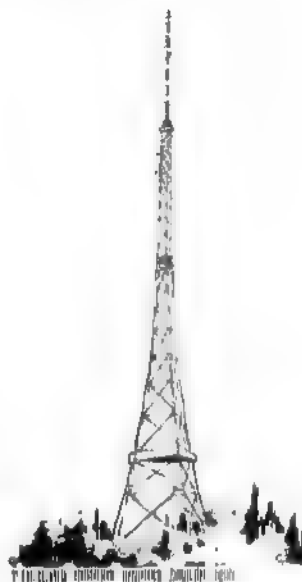
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China's Burgeoning TV

by Our Correspondent Ling Yang

ALTHOUGH China's television programme service started as early as 1958, it did not become part of a way of life until three or four years ago. Today, about one-third of Beijing's families living in the city proper have television sets. Elsewhere in the country—in workshops of industrial plants, in rural production brigades (a production brigade is composed of one or a number of villages), in schools, government offices as well as in every local residents' committee—there is a television set; some even have colour ones replacing the black-and-white.

Beijing residents every evening have three TV programme services to choose from and each channel provides news, recreational items and special programmes. Mornings and afternoons there are educational programmes. On Sundays and national holidays, one channel offers three services a day, beginning with a children's programme in the morning. These programmes are prepared and released by CCTV, short for the China Central Television, (one channel beamed to the whole country and another to Beijing only) and a local TV station.



On the Screen

IN the ten years of turmoil which began in the middle of the 1960s, the programmes offered were uninteresting and monotonous. With the exit of Jiang Qing and her gang from China's political scene, our TV programmes, like all other cultural undertakings in this country, have regained vitality. Our TV workers are working diligently to organize better programmes. They look forward to a TV screen free from unhealthy scenes, a screen that is informative, entertaining and pleasing to the eye. This, of course, cannot be achieved overnight and the present situation is far from what is envisaged.

News Service

In Beijing, Shanghai and

other fairly big cities the number of people watching TV news in the evening is on the increase and this has gradually become a way of life.

Throughout the country wherever people have access to television*, they can see the news of the day in the evening, such as the meeting of the National People's Congress, or the trial of the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing cliques which began last November. However, mainly for technical reasons, news

* China now has 38 programme originating TV stations, plus 238 TV rebroadcasting stations. In addition, there are also 2,000-odd low-power TV frequency translators to serve the county seats and some rural districts.

items do not always reach the public quickly.

News stories about economic construction take up the lion's share of news over the TV. Subjects in the latest coverages that have aroused public interest are newborn things connected with the structural reforms, such as joint enterprises of agriculture, industry and commerce, and the system of factory director taking charge under the leadership of the congress of workers and staff members on an experimental basis in some of the factories.

More and more news of social events of public concern can be seen on the screen, among them are helping juvenile delinquents mend their ways, finding jobs for those waiting to be employed, urban marriage "exchange," old-age pensioners

in rural people's communes, home life of a 2.2-metre-tall basketball player and his wife; cracking cases of smuggling....

Every evening beginning last April, there has been ten minutes of satellite news, which has proved very popular. Many TV watchers want to know more about happenings in small countries and in the lives of ordinary people.

There are also exclusive interviews with visitors from foreign lands. One such interview was with President Giscard d'Estaing of France who told a CCTV reporter of the measures he had taken in tackling budgetary deficits when he was in charge of his country's financial affairs and his appraisal of French youth today. Another was an interview with Santiago Carrillo Solares, General Secretary of the Spanish Communist Party, whose connections with the Chinese Communist Party had been discontinued for some years. He explained his Party's activities to a reporter of the same station. The Chinese audience found these interviews particularly interesting.

There is a programme entitled "Across the Land," which spotlights the scenic beauties and special features of various localities in China.

Chatting with this correspondent, the two news editors in charge emphasized the fact that they had been exploring ways to serve their audience better and the goal of their endeavours had always been; wider coverage, more prompt and vivid news-reporting.

Wider Knowledge

A special weekly programme set up three years ago provides viewers with a window through

which to look out on the world. It has introduced among other things the agro-industrial complexes in Yugoslavia, a West Berlin hospital of a new type, the music centre in Sydney, offshore oil drilling in Mexico, rubber plantations in Malaysia, scientific and technological achievements in some developed countries, as well as cultural life, local conditions and customs in various parts of the world. On this programme, called "Round the World," more than a hundred documentaries on dozens of countries have been shown so far. One of the most highly enjoyed films was about the adventures of a young British woman in Tanzania unveiling the mysterious kingdom of the chimpanzees.

"Culture of Foreign Countries" has been running since New Year's Day. The first of the series was an American film about the Louvre in Paris, and proved to be a hit among Chinese TV viewers.

Editors in charge of these two programmes said they were aimed at helping viewers broaden their knowledge of the world.

Other programmes with the same purpose include "On the International Scene," "Science & Technology," "Hygiene & Health," "Advice on Everyday Living" as well as "Cultural Life." The last one deals with almost every field of literary and artistic endeavour ranging from theatre, literature, cinema, music and dancing to art, calligraphy and photography. Professionals and amateurs alike find them immensely absorbing.

On the Chinese TV screen viewers are able to get a glimpse of popular sports events

overseas, such as surfing, canoeing and frisbee.

Promoting Social Progress

Earlier on, our TV crew shot some scenes of people (who appeared to be related to ranking officials or officers) stepping out of government limousines outside Beijing's biggest department store. These scenes were a sharp charge against some senior cadres abusing privileges granted them because of their position. This two-minute news evoked a strong response from the public.

CCTV, probably inspired by this, is now organizing tentatively a special programme entitled "Look & Think It Over." A greater part of the more than a dozen subjects that have been dealt with concern economic or social problems, looking, for instance, into the causes of the housing shortage in Beijing, explaining why the number of traffic accidents in the capital went up at one time, or citing reasons for vegetable scarcities on the market. On this particular programme authorities concerned appeal to the public to make more rational use of Beijing's already overtapped subterranean water resources and to economize on water, or call on people to develop collectively owned service trades for the convenience of the public and provide more job opportunities. The express purpose of this programme is to give a push to the solution of problems and improve things, making use of both criticism and praise.

This calls to mind the fact that for some time reporting on shortcomings and problems in the press was looked on as detrimental to socialism. But today more and more people have come to see that white-

washing reality will not help solve problems but, on the contrary, compromise the credibility of our mass media. The efforts made by the TV station to bring about progress in real life are truly praiseworthy.

Entertainment

More than half the TV programmes here are recreational. In the earlier years, they were mostly feature films or live theatrical performances. China's TV stations, state-owned and non-profit, charge their audiences nothing, nor do they have to pay for the release of films or live programmes.

In recent years, however, a problem cropped up with TV sets finding their way into many homes and the government's insistence on enterprises handing in profits. While TV audiences ask for more new films and theatrical performances, cinemas and theatres, out of box-office considerations, have had to put their foot down.

Our TV stations have thus been forced to pull themselves up by their own bootstraps.

This is how TV shows are being developed at a fast tempo. About a month before and after last year's October 1, National Day, CCTV provided a nationwide programme of 46 TV shows made in various parts of the country. It was on an unprecedented, grand scale. Since New Year's Day, the station has released a fresh batch of TV shows. A Chinese TV show series, the first of its kind, is being shown on Saturdays.

These shows, numerous in number, though artistically immature and nondescript in style, have touched on many facets of life—career, friendship, love, marriage and so on. Many are in praise of people and things contributing to the country's modernization drive. Some recall the difficult years of war or the trauma wrought by the ten years of turmoil; others deal with bureaucracy, conservatism, special privilege mentality, social abuses, morality and legal system. There are also a dozen or so programmes especially designed for children.

Up-and-coming, TV shows have now become the topic of the day, some people trying to define what their salient features should be, others debating whether artistically they should be presented more like a modern play or like a film. . . .

The general public in their tens of thousands, however, simply ask for more and better TV shows, in addition to more and better TV entertainments in the form of local operas, songs and dances, musical programmes, as well as cross-talks, ballad-singing and acrobatics.

Educational Programmes

Educational programmes on Beijing's TV screen are provided by a number of sponsors.

Courses offered by CCTV include basic courses on science and engineering (mechanical and electrical engineering) as well as basic courses on technology. They were arranged by the Central TV and Radio Broadcasting University under the joint sponsorship of the Ministry of Education and the Central Broadcasting Administration.

The municipal television station offers basic courses on such specialties as motor drive and heat treatment of metals for the Beijing TV and Radio Broadcasting University. In Shanghai, the courses include those in medical science. All TV universities elsewhere in the country offer their own curriculums according to local needs and capabilities.

Apart from a nationwide network of such universities, Beijing TV station also offers lectures for scientists and technicians sponsored by the municipal science commission. Advanced courses sponsored by Beijing's Institute of Education are being provided for primary and middle school teachers. Courses in basic medical science for junior medical personnel will be opened before long.

A 30-minute English lesson given every evening has a larger audience than any other TV programme here. It began three years ago as a course open to all, with no registration or examination required. Anyone who attends regularly and does the required homework may master basic English grammar and about 1,000 words in 20 months. The lessons, taught by well-known English professors and teachers



A scene from the TV show "Girl Friend."



A TV lecture on anaesthesia.

from foreign language institutes or English departments of universities, are supplemented with conversation drills and mini plays. Three months ago, these lessons entered their second cycle of teaching with a plan to help beginners reach the intermediate level in two years. Teaching materials have been compiled and published for this

purpose. Although they have been reprinted over 30 times with more than 5 million copies sold, the demand still outstrips the supply.

The popularity of these English lessons has led to the opening up of a new programme known as "Sunday English" showing imported films with English dialogues.

Advertisements

Advertisements are something new in China's mass media. They appeared only after the elimination of ultra-Leftist influence in the course of resuscitating the economy and culture.

Advertising units and clients alike stress the need for TV advertisements which, they say, are helpful in cementing ties between production and marketing and in activating the market. Thanks to these advertisements, many products have found a brisk market. Advertisements, they say, also play a useful role in disseminating knowledge about various commodities and arousing the interest of potential consumers.

Quite a few people, however, can never get used to this sort of thing, not because advertising was for many years considered "capitalist," but because they do not take much interest in advertisements.

Programmes for Foreign Audiences

To date, the central television station has exchanged programmes with its counterparts in 50 countries and regions.

China is a member state of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization. Through the satellite system it has broadcast a number of items for the whole world to see, including the last session of the National People's Congress, the trial of the Lin Biao and Jiang Qing cliques and a number of theatrical performances of national flavour.

Chinese programmes distributed by CCTV for foreign audiences are on the in-

crease. People abroad can now enjoy the scenic beauties of Beijing, Guilin and Huangshan Mountain, the Buddhist Dunhuang murals, unique arts and crafts of China, acrobatic performances, traditional wushu and qigong, demonstrations of acupuncture anaesthesia and others.

Some audiences abroad may have watched a comprehensive TV programme known as "People's China." The items were arranged by Chinese embassies in foreign countries with the help of television stations. They are undergoing readjustment according to many requests for

specialized programmes dealing with youth and women of China.

There are also programmes produced by our foreign colleagues visiting or residing in China. Among those which have appeared on Beijing's TV screen are *Forbidden City* by Mrs. Jarvis of the United States and *The Silk Road*, a documentary series produced through Sino-Japanese collaboration. They help Chinese audiences understand China through the eyes of people of foreign lands.

The Chinese people today want to know more about the world and also seek to be understood by those in other parts of the world.

In a Village

XIAOYUAN is a village located on a hillside 25 kilometres west of Beijing proper. I arrived in Xiaoyuan by jeep, together with two young workmen from a district government broadcasting section on their round of inspections and maintenance of TV sets.

Five or six years ago, the production brigade here (an agricultural unit at the grassroots level) bought a TV set with its public welfare fund. Every evening crowds of people spent hours before the TV, their eyes glued to the screen. At that time, a private television set was practically inconceivable to inhabitants in a poor mountain village like this.

In recent years, with the adoption of more flexible state policies in the countryside, peasants' income has gone up: 109 out of the 122 village households have bought their own TV sets. This is really a high percentage, not yet attained even in urban districts of such big cities as Shanghai and Beijing.

That afternoon I spent about two hours visiting seven families with the TV maintenance men. All the TV sets there are 12" black-and-white models of the Peacock brand with an attractive label, made in Suzhou (Soochow), east China. In respect to price and performance, they are much better than the Shanghai-made one I myself bought six years ago.

I became absorbed in finding out how the villagers responded to the various TV programmes, which ones they liked best and so on. Without exception, every one of the scores of people I talked to, from seven- or eight-year-old kids to peo-

ple in their sixties or seventies, confirmed that he or she was an ardent "TV fan." Young people all said they liked to watch feature films while most of the older people preferred traditional operas based on historical themes or on folklore. In the evening the daughter of the family whom I stayed with took me for a walk around the village. We stopped at the windows or the fences outside some 20 peasant households; the families were all watching the new feature film *Agent Provocateur*, about a rich young couple who, in the 1940s at their wedding ceremony, announced their intention to join the people's armed forces but were later victimized by a sham revolutionary.

Members of one household was watching a football game, the principal spectator being a middle school student attending classes inside the city. A member of the municipal junior team, he was convalescing from a bone fracture incurred during a game. I was told that some young villagers were also very fond of TV sports programmes.

A granny I met told me how

her whole family enjoyed watching TV programmes but were always divided over which programme to watch in the evening. When they failed to come to terms, they would seek the co-operation of their next-door neighbour, arranging to have a different programme at each home, so that people could take their choice and every one would be happy.

Near the village periphery was a workshop making stone slabs. I saw a group of women workers busy packing the products. These stone slabs made of quarried rocks, with attractive natural colouring and beautiful veins running through, are ideal building materials for walls or floors. It is these materials that have earned enough over the years to enable the villagers to buy TV sets. These women workers were discussing a documentary *Believe It or Not* which they had seen the night before. It was about certain people in Beijing and other places who are able to tell what words are written on a slip of paper sealed in an envelope and placed behind their ears or under armpits. What has given these people a special function that others do not have? Why is it



A corner of the control tower at the capital's International Airport.

TV Industry

The People's Republic founded its own TV industry in 1958 by setting up its first television station in Beijing with a transmission power of 1,000 watts, with equipment designed and made in this country, and turning out its first television camera. In the same year, China's first batch of black-and-white television sets, 200 all told, were born. The annual output was 4,300 pieces by the middle of the 60s. Then came the ten catastrophic years which seriously hindered the development of this new industry.

The state has in recent years allotted large appropriations for the television industry. Investments in 1979 and 1980 exceeded the total investment in the previous eight years. Production has gone up by leaps and bounds.

Today the scale of China's relatively young television industry can be indicated by the following achievements:

- The biggest television transmission power can be as high as 40 kilowatts.
- Of country's 28 provinces, municipalities and autonomous

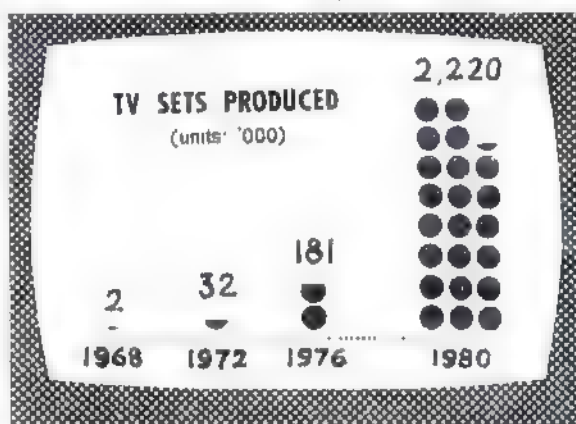
regions (not including Taiwan Province), 25 have built their own television industries producing all types of television sets (plus spare parts) for family use, for teaching medical treatment and industrial purposes as well as equipment for transmission, receiving and relaying.

- The nation's output of television sets, as one of the most welcomed durable goods, is going up every year. In quality, its main performance specifications are close to those of a similar type made in other countries.

• Production on a limited scale of UHF 48-channel television sets is under way. Production of projected television is being developed.

• Home-made picture tubes, since they were made first in the early 1970s, are enjoying an ever-growing good reputation. Shanghai-made ones have an average life span of 4,000, 5,000 and 6,000 hours or more for nine-inch, 12-inch and 16-inch ones respectively.

• China's television industry has imported some advanced technology. One such latest achievement is the import by eight of our plants of colour television assembly lines from Japan.



(Based on statistics compiled by the TV industry)

our scientists have thus far failed to provide an answer?...

Obviously, television has brought marked changes to the lives of peasants whose forbears for centuries were cut off from the world of big events and changes, seeing and hearing

little or nothing outside of their own villages. Television has moved, so to speak, cinema houses, theatres and gymnasiums right into the hitherto isolated farmhouses, to awaken people's minds, broaden their vision and widen their fields of interest.

television set beside the blackboard and another one at the corner in the rear of the room. Over a dozen students seated before each of the television screens were attending class. This was the last session of the term they had before the term-end exam. In a few days they would sit for examinations of the TV university and the results would decide whether or

Television University*

WHAT is the salient feature of China's television university?

It is that of collective study with face-to-face tutorial, as formulated by the President of Beijing Television and Radio Broadcasting University. I

learnt during my visit to a heavy duty machinery works in the city that a university of this type, with this salient feature, is not open to everyone.

The classroom was spacious and well-lighted. There was a

* Apart from the Central Television and Radio Broadcasting University in Beijing, there are 28 local ones in the country with a total official enrolment of 324,000 (the figure does not include those who attend TV classes on their own).

not they could continue their studies the following term.

In a brief chat after class, I learnt that they had been admitted to the department of mechanical engineering five months ago after having passed unified entrance examinations drawn up by the university. Their class was made up of 38 new students from the factory

and two entries from a nearby small factory. They get instructions from a work station set up in their locality by the university; their classrooms and laboratories are also in the vicinity.

The students came from different workshops in the factory and among them were lathe operators, fitters, forgers and mechanics. There was a sprink-

ling of draughtsmen from the designing section who had been holding down fairly good jobs. All felt they knew too little and wanted to know more. Among them was a pretty girl from the accountant's office. She confided to me quite frankly that she had come to study because she hoped to find a new job after graduation. She came from a technician's family

Two Days' TV Programmes

"Dianshi Zhoubao" (TV Weekly News) is a four-page tabloid published in Beijing with a circulation of one million, one of the best-selling journals in the country. For example, in its February 12 issue, the following programmes were listed, among others.

February 21, SATURDAY

Central Station First Programme

- 17:30 English Lessons
- 18:00 Basic Courses for Middle School Teachers: Algebra
- 19:00 News
- 19:30 Across the Land; Afforestation in Yudu (by courtesy of the Shanxi Provincial Station)
- 20:00 British TV Show Series: "David Copperfield" (III)
- 20:50 Window on Sports: Thrilling Scenes of the Qualifying Tournament of Group Four of the World Cup, Asian-Oceanian Zone
- 21:20 TV Serial: "18 Years in the Enemy Camp" (V)
- 21:50 Asian-African-Latin American Music and Dances
- 22:50 Signing Off

Second Programme

- 19:00 Look & Think It Over: "The Quality of a Highway"
- 19:20 Local Opera: "Tale of a Forced Marriage"
- 20:50 News

- 21:20 On the International Scene: Island of Reunion, etc.
- 21:35 Signing Off.

Beijing Station

- 19:00 Special News Item: Good Service in a Big Store at the Counter for Small Purchases
- 19:20 Motherland's New Look
- 19:30 TV Show: "Bowls as a Compensation"
- 20:30 Beijing Opera: "Locking Up the 'Five Dragons'"

February 22, SUNDAY

Central Station First Programme

- 8:30 Children's Hour: Cartoon: Stone-Throwing; TV Show: Why Has Xiaoyong Grown a Moustache? (by courtesy of the Guangxi Station)
- 9:20 Science & Education Film: "A Story of Books"
- 9:40 Feature Film: "The Case of Xu Qiyang"
- 11:10 Signing Off
- 14:00 Sunday English: "Hamlet, Prince of Denmark"

- 15:20 Music and Dance (by courtesy of the Gansu Provincial Station)

- 16:30 Signing Off

- 19:00 News

- 19:30 Children's Hour: "Tetsuwan Atom" (XII), a Japanese science fiction cartoon series

- 20:00 Round the World: Yosemite National Park, U.S.A.

- 20:15 Look & Think It Over

- 20:35 Sichuan "qingyin" singing (by courtesy of the Sichuan Provincial Station)

- 20:55 TV Show: "This Is Just the Beginning" (by courtesy of the Gansu Provincial Station)

- 22:25 Signing Off

Second Programme

- 19:00 TV Documentary Serial: "The Silk Road" (VI), a joint Sino-Japanese production

- 19:50 Cross-Talks Evening

- 21:20 News

- 21:40 Signing Off

Beijing Station

- 19:00 North China Scenes (No. 1)

- 19:15 Popular Science: Aerial Prospecting

- 19:40 Culture: Art — Friendship

- 19:55 Works of Mu Linfei, an artist of traditional Chinese painting

- 20:10 "Swan Lake," Selected Scenes

- 21:00 Beijing Opera: "Romance in a Trunk"



At a TV university classroom.

and experienced the outburst of the "cultural revolution" when she was in primary school. What with the continuing chaos, her high school education was over and she had learnt very little. So she had studied hard on her own and tried to teach herself; she had sat for college entrance examinations once before but had failed.

A large number of young workers today have had similar experiences. This is why they are flocking to apply for enrolment in the television university. Those admitted must be the lucky ones. They leave their old jobs and throw themselves into their studies heart and soul. The factory where they worked before pays their tuition and laboratory fees and provides them with other needed facilities. They get their monthly wages as before and are entitled to the same free medical service and whatever fringe benefits they enjoyed before.

They live more or less like regular college students, attending TV classes together regularly in the morning as required; this method, as they have come to see, is much better

than attending classes separately at home.

They receive tutoring in the afternoon. Tutors explain the main points and the difficult parts of the lectures to help them understand better. They also answer questions and train students to develop the ability to study on their own. One of the tutors told me that nearly every one of his students worked very hard, many of them staying up till late at night to master their lessons. In his opinion, it was possible that in three years' time they would be nearly as good as any graduate of a regular college. Some simply have left home and moved into the factory's dormitory for single workers. To prepare for the term-end examinations, one of them does not even go home for meals, whereas prior to this, he had always enjoyed cooking and eating with his wife after work. Teachers have to remind students from time to time to get some rest.

The enthusiasm of the faculty members and the diligence of the students are heartening; our new generation of educated young people are showing great promise. □

China's Socialist Economy

by Xue Muqiao

This comprehensive book on economic problems in China's socialist society was written by the well known Chinese economist Xue Muqiao. In probing China's experience in socialist revolution and construction over the last three decades, the author attacks both theoretical and practical problems, highlighting those which remain either wholly or partially unresolved. Some of the major questions dealt with in the book are.

Socialist ownership

The system of "to each according to his work"

Reform of the wage system
Commodity and money under socialism

The function of the law of value and the pricing policy

Running a planned economy
Reform of the economic structure

China's path to modernization

Class struggle and contradictions among the people

The intelligent organization of China's labour force and proper management of both national construction and the people's livelihood are discussed in detail. Also included are a number of hitherto unpublished statistics from various stages of China's economic development.

Size: 203 × 140 mm
Pages: 316

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ART

Picture-Story Books

China's picture-story books have enjoyed increasing popularity in recent years among children and many adult readers as well. Almost 340 million copies were published in the first three quarters of 1980, accounting for one-fifth of the total number of copies of books printed during that period across the country.

Many of the stories in these books represent true life or are based on the lives of historical figures, revolutionary veterans and scientists. Those adapted from world-famous ancient and modern literary works are also immensely popular. Last year,

for example, one of the country's best-selling picture books was *Stories of Yue Fei*, a series about a well-known national hero of the 12th century; more than 15 million copies were sold.

In addition, Chinese picture books embody a rich variety of artistic forms and style. This art has a long history in China, and there are many skilful works from various ancient dynasties. Even the Dunhuang cave murals, begun in 366 A.D., contain sequences of story-telling pictures similar to today's picture books.

Currently, some 700 painters and illustrators, many enjoying high reputation in China, are working full-time in this field.

At the 1980 contest for illustrations in children's books last December in Tokyo, *Ancient Chinese Fables*, illustrated by Chang Shiming, won first prize. *Monkey King Subdues the White-Bone Demon* by Zhao Hongben and Qian Xiaodai, as well as Jiang Tiefeng's *Ashima* were runners-up in the competition.

More attention has been given to picture books in China in recent years. The Central Academy of Fine Arts has begun teaching lessons in picture-stories in serial form, and several new magazines devoted to illustrated stories have also appeared. The *Lianhuan Huabao* (a monthly which publishes picture-stories in serial form) of the People's Art Publishing House always quickly sells out of its 1.1 million copies of every issue.

EDUCATION

Child Care

China has placed greater emphasis on pre-school education in recent years. According to incomplete statistics gathered from 22 provinces, autonomous regions and cities, there are now some 988,000 nurseries and kindergartens throughout the country providing care for 35 million pre-school children. This figure is a significant improvement over the total of 1,300 kindergartens in operation when the People's Republic was founded in 1949; as a result, more and more women have been able to free themselves from household chores and take part in social production work. The number of child care facilities is still considered



① 以言。黄母借了宝钗与众姐妹看戏。新戏先叫宝钗点。宝钗无法推辞，只得点了一出“西厢记”。男扮白素贞戏。



17 没有回头见了她。问道：“林林妹怎么不见？好个懒丫头。这会子难道还睡觉不成？”宝钗道：“你们等着，要睡去睡了她去。”

[illegible]

第二天去叫鳳王，習習抬頭見公主進了廣潤館。她不由掉了鋼索，心道：公主和鳳王從小一起長大，她父母回家不道講談之時，況且鳳王才豐姿，此刻自己

Scenes from the picture-story adapted from the classical novel "A Dream of Red Mansions."

inadequate, however, as less than 30 per cent of the children of pre-school age are enrolled. Last year, representatives from various government organizations met to discuss pre-school education, and it was decided that special funds should be allotted in the state budget for nurseries and kindergartens in the future.

In addition, the Ministry of Education has recently set standards for such considerations as pre-school children's diets, the size of their desks, chairs and beds, and the recommended hours of study for children of different ages. The regulations also mandate 30 to 45 minutes of daily lessons in sports, Chinese language, general knowledge, arithmetic, music and drawing.

The government is also training more kindergarten teachers. Five colleges have resumed their pre-school education speciality and some 20 provinces have opened or reopened kindergarten teachers' schools. Special training classes and spare-time courses have also been organized to give further training to teachers.



A teacher instructing her pre-school children.

Books

Economic Readjustment And Reform

Several Problems Concerning
China's Present Economy
by Xue Muqiao

«当前我国经济若干问题»

Published by People's Publishing House
Renminbi 0.55 yuan

A collection of important economic theses entitled *Several Problems Concerning China's Present Economy* written by Xue Muqiao, Director of the Institute of Economics under the State Planning Commission, has been published recently. This leading economist's latest work is primarily a discussion of the readjustment and restructuring of China's national economy and, as in his earlier *China's Socialist Economy*, he offers some valuable insights into these important questions.

According to Xue, one of the central tasks facing China now in the economic sphere is a thorough shift of the proportionate relationship between various branches of the national economy, coupled with the steady reform of the structure of economic management. Since the Third Plenary Session of the Party's 11th Central Committee in December 1978, he says, great results have been achieved through the policy of readjusting, restructuring, consolidating and improving the national economy. However, many problems still exist: the scale of capital construction is still too large; products which are overstocked and in low demand are still being produced

in a blind way; priority has not yet been given to products needed for economic construction, improving people's standard of living and earning more foreign exchange; the long-standing imbalance of the national economy has not been changed; and the irrational structure of economic management has not been adequately reformed.

All these problems call for a greater effort at present to carry out readjustment. Readjustment must be combined with restructuring. Restructuring which should benefit readjustment must be made in a gradual and steady way now. This means that trial experiments in restructuring should not be popularized until the necessary experience has been gained.

Xue Muqiao also argues that at the present stage of China's socialist economy, which contains several kinds of economic sectors based on the public ownership of the means of production, it is necessary to expand the roles of commodity production and the law of value and to practise regulation through both planning and the market. Without a developed commodity economy recognizing the role of the market, socialized large-scale production and the building of socialism will be impossible.

Since the socialist economy is based on public ownership and large-scale production, planned management is indispensable for organizing production, circulation, distribution and the livelihood of the people. But planned management must be complemented by regulation through the market. This is a

very complicated question, the author points out. "It is inadvisable both to overemphasize regulation by planning and to overstress regulation through the market. The latter will cause the state plan to lose its necessary function of control." The state should control "firstly, the scale of capital construction, and secondly, the range of increase in the people's standard of living. Overall arrangements should be made for economic construction and the people's life."

Considering China's experience over the last 30 years and the country's present level of development, Xue concludes that the national economy can develop rapidly only when the rate of accumulation remains at around 25 per cent of the national income. If it surpasses 30 per cent, there will be an imbalance, and if it reaches 40 per cent, there will be an economic decline. After the downfall of the gang of four, the country should have had a period of recuperation to build up its economic strength. The relationship between various branches of the national economy should have been readjusted. However, the accumulation rate in 1978 jumped to 36.5 per cent, and the resulting problems revealed completely the country's economic imbalance. Fortunately this was quickly checked by a correct policy of readjustment designed to increase consumption, raise the people's standard of living and reduce the scale of capital construction.

Regarding structural changes in the national economy, the noted economist asserts that reforms should be guided by the principles of the commodity economy and conducted within the systems of distribution and circulation. Specifically, the

material interests of central and local governments, enterprises and individuals should be taken into account to stimulate initiative on all sides to boost production and increase profits. A breach should also be made in the state monopoly over purchasing, marketing and distribution, so that the role of market regulation can gradually be brought forth and the separation of production from demand can be eliminated.

In addition, expansion of the power of enterprises to make their own decisions constitutes one of the foundations of the restructuring of the economy. This will not only involve retaining part of their own profits but, more importantly, enlarging the power of workers and staff members to manage their own enterprises. This reform is thus of fundamental importance in the author's analysis. All enterprises must practise democratic management and give play to the role of the workers as their own masters.

Xue Muqiao offers some further suggestions designed to spur the economic activities. For example, he says, more channels for circulation should be opened and the work of trade streamlined, so that direct contact between producers and consumers can occur more often. A little competition under the guidance of the state plan should be encouraged. The bureaucratic style of work in state industry and commerce should be eliminated.

The idea of establishing economic centres and developing trans-province enterprises is also presented. The author asserts that from a long-term view, this method is the only way to narrow the differences between various regions. Moreover, such a policy would

help to break down the barriers between different departments and regions and replace administrative management with economic management.

Finally, the book suggests that while reforming the system of economic management, it is also necessary to reform the administrative system; the organs of administrative management must be simplified and many unreasonable phenomena must be changed, such as leaving the Party to do what should be done by the administrative organ.

The exploration and discussion in this book of some major problems in China's economy, such as wages, employment, the law of value and price policy, are of great reference value. Since this is a collection of separately written essays, however, there is some repetition in the book, and not all of the explanations are consistent. This reveals the development of the author's thoughts over some of these problems, and also shows that some of his arguments are still somewhat immature and open for debate.

Publication News

A Selection of Taiwan Poems, compiled by the People's Literature Publishing House, has recently come off the press. It contains over 90 poems selected from various newspapers, magazines and books published in Taiwan. This selection reflects the Taiwan people's strong desires for the reunification of China and reunion with their kith and kin on the mainland. Some of the poems also eulogize such themes as labour and love, and present various images of the lives of working people in Taiwan.

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